UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/879,451	06/12/2001	Dimitrios Papadimitriou	50001.2060	3537

27045 7590 01/14/2005

ERICSSON INC.
6300 LEGACY DRIVE
M/S EVR C11
PLANO, TX 75024

EXAMINER	
DANIEL JR, WILLIE J	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2686	

DATE MAILED: 01/14/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/879,451	PAPADIMITRIOU ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Willie J. Daniel, Jr.	2686	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *12 October 2004*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-4,6-11 and 13-16* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-4,6-11 and 13-16* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *01 September 2004* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is in response to applicant's RCE filed on 12 October 2004 and amendment filed on 01 September 2004. **Claims 1-4, 6-11, 13-16** are now pending in the present application.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

2. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 12 October 2004 has been entered.

Drawings

3. The objection to the Fig. 2 is withdrawn, as the proposed drawing correction is approved.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-4, 6, 8-11, 13-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Ho et al.** (hereinafter Ho) (**US 6,091,953**) in view of **Anquetil et al.** (hereinafter Anquetil) (*Media Gateway Control Protocol and Voice Over IP Gateways*).

Regarding **Claim 1**, Ho discloses of having a telecommunications network (100) providing non-dedicated circuit pathways between base station controller (110) which reads on the claimed "access nodes" and switches (104) in the wireless communication system (100) which reads on the claimed "network" (Figs. 1, 17) comprising:

a plurality of access nodes (110) disposed about a service area of the telecommunications network (see col. 5, line 18-25; Fig. 1);

a switch pool (104) adapted to communicate with the access nodes (110) in order to provide access by a plurality of mobile units (136) which reads on the claimed "user terminals" to services of the telecommunications network (100) (see col. 5, lines 18-31; Fig. 1), where the pool of switches are connected to user terminals through access nodes;

a dispatching switch (102, 1716) which reads on the claimed "media gateways" providing one or more connections between the access nodes (110) and the switch pool (104) via a plurality of circuit pathways (see col. 5, line 18-25; col. 9, line 57 - col. 10, line 8; Figs. 1, 3, 4, and 15-17), where the switch pool (104) is connected to the access nodes via the

dispatching switch (102). The scalability of system can be increased by adding additional MSC's, dispatch switches (message routers) for such reasons as load-balancing and capacity management (see col. 20, lines 28-37,56-61; Figs. 1, 17), where multiple message routers (1718) and/or dispatching switches (102) are implemented in the system and controlled by system element such as element (1712).;

operably coupled to the media gateway (102) and the switch pool (106) (see col. 5, line 18-25; col. 10, lines 27-37; col. 20, lines 13-19,28-37,56-61; Figs. 1, 17; Figs. 1, 17, 20C), where the dispatching switch (102) and the MSC pool (106) are implemented in the system and coupled in the system via an element such as element (1712).

configured for connecting a switch (104) and a target access node (110) (see Figs. 1, 17), where the system provides connection for the between the switches (104) and BSC's (110);

checking a data structure, wherein relationships between circuit and associated identity codes, media gateways (102) and access nodes (110) are stored (see col. 7, lines 39-65; col. 9, line 57 - col. 10, line 4; col. 10, lines 14-22; Figs. 2, 4, 5A-B, 7, 8, 11-12, 20A-C), where the data structure of the addressing table defines the connections and routes used between the network elements;

allocating a particular circuit pathway (e.g., connection) between the switch (104) and the target access node (110), by (see col. 7, lines 39-56; col. 10, lines 9-37; Figs. 1, 11-12, 17-19), where connections are established between the dispatching switch (102) and access nodes (110);

allocating an available, non-dedicated circuit pathway (e.g., connection) between the switch (104) and the selected media gateway (102) (see col. 7, lines 39-56; col. 10, lines 9-

37; Figs. 1, 17), where the provides connections between the MSC (104) and dispatching switch (102) ;

allocating an available, non-dedicated circuit pathway (e.g., connection) between the selected media gateway (102) and the-target access node (110) (see col. 7, lines 39-56; col. 10, lines 9-37; Figs. 1, 11-12, 18-19), where connections are established between the dispatching switch (102) and access nodes (110), and;

upon termination of communications between the switch (104) and the target access node (110), the switch (104) informing that the call is released and the circuit pathway between the switch (104), the media gateway (102) and the target access node (110) is released and the database (e.g., table) is updated (see col. 7, lines 39-56; col. 10, lines 9-37; Figs. 1, 7-8, 11-12, 1719), where connections are established between the switch (104), dispatching switch (102), and access nodes (110) in which a table is maintained and updated. Ho fails to disclose having the features a media gateway selection node; the media gateway selection node and comprising means (MGC) for: ; coupled to the MGWSN; selecting a media gateway; the MGWSN. However, the examiner maintains that having the features a media gateway selection node; the media gateway selection node and comprising means (MGC) for:; coupled to the MGWSN; selecting a media gateway; the MGWSN was well known in the art, as taught by Anquetil.

In the same field of endeavor, Anquetil discloses of having the features

a media gateway controller (MGC) which reads on the claimed "media gateway selection node" (see Fig. 2), where the MGC controls the connections of the media gateways (MG);

the media gateway selection node (MGC) and comprising means (MGC) for: (see pg. 154, left column, section Gateway Decomposition; pg. 154, section MGCP Connection Control; Fig. 2), where the MGC is able to provide connections between endpoints;

coupled to the MGWSN (MGC) (see pg. 154, left column, section Gateway Decomposition; pg. 154, section MGCP Connection Control; Fig. 2), where the MGC is able to provide connections between endpoints;

selecting a media gateway (MG) (see pg. 154, left column; Fig. 2), where the media gateway controller selects a media gateway for end to end connection;

the MGWSN (MGC) (see Fig. 2), where the MGC provides connections between endpoints by connecting system elements such media gateways and PBXs.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Ho and Anquetil to have the features a media gateway selection node; the media gateway selection node and comprising means (MGC) for:; coupled to the MGWSN; selecting a media gateway; the MGWSN, in order to have a network that is scalable by controlling media gateway selection with a media gateway controller, as taught by Anquetil.

Regarding **Claim 2**, the combination of Ho and Anquetil discloses every limitation claimed, as applied above (see claim 1), in addition Ho further teaches of a network (100) of claim 1 wherein the switches (104, 106, 108) comprise Mobile Switching Centers (MSCS) (see Figs. 1 and 2).

Regarding **Claim 3**, the combination of Ho and Anquetil discloses every limitation claimed, as applied above (see claim 1), in addition Ho further teaches the network of claim 1

wherein the access nodes (110, 112, 114, 116) comprise Base Station Controllers (BSCS) (see Fig. 1).

Regarding **Claim 4**, the combination of Ho and Anquetil discloses every limitation claimed, as applied above (see claim 1), in addition Ho further teaches the network of claim 1 wherein the access nodes (110) comprise Radio Network Servers (RNSs) (see col. 6, lines 19-22; col. 10, lines 30-37; Figs. 2, 4, 5A, 5B, 6), where the dispatch switch (102) uses an addressing table of stored data that is periodically updated and used to route traffic in which a server would be obvious.

Regarding **Claim 6**, the combination of Ho and Anquetil discloses every limitation claimed, as applied above (see claim 1), in addition Ho further discloses the network of claim 5 wherein the data structure comprises a media gateway selection database (see col. 7, lines 39-56; col. 9, line 57 - col. 10, line 4; col. 10, lines 30-37; col. 20, lines 28-37,56-61; Figs. 1-2, 5A-B, 7, 8, 17), where the addressing table is stored data for selecting and determining the route and connections between the components therefore a database is obvious. The scalability of system can be increased by adding additional MSC's, dispatch switches (message routers) for such reasons as load-balancing and capacity management (see col. 20, lines 28-37,56-61; Figs. 1, 17), where multiple message routers (1718) and/or dispatching switches (102) are implemented in the system and controlled by system element such as element (1712).

Regarding **Claim 8**, Ho discloses of a method of providing non-dedicated circuit pathways between access nodes (BSC 110) and switches (MSC 104) in a telecommunications network having a plurality of media gateways (102) (see col. 5, line 18-25; col. 10, lines 27-

37; Figs. 1, 3, 17-19, 20C), where the system controls the dispatching switch (102) for connecting the access nodes (110) to the switch pool (104), the method comprising the steps of:

checking a data structure, wherein relationships between circuit and associated identity codes, media gateways (102) and access nodes (110) are stored (see col. 7, lines 39-65; col. 9, line 57 - col. 10, line 4; col. 10, lines 14-22; Figs. 2, 4, 5A-B, 7, 8, 11-12, 20A-C), where the data structure of the addressing table defines the connections and routes used between the network elements;

allocating a circuit pathway (e.g., connection) between the switch (104) and the target access node (110), wherein said allocating step comprises: (see col. 7, lines 39-56; col. 10, lines 9-37; Figs. 1, 11-12, 18-19), where connections are established between the dispatching switch (102) and access nodes (110);

allocating an available, non-dedicated circuit pathway (e.g., connection) between the switch (104) and the selected media gateway (102) (see col. 7, lines 39-56; col. 10, lines 9-37; Figs. 1, 17), where the provides connections between the MSC (104) and dispatching switch (102) ;

allocating an available, non-dedicated circuit pathway (e.g., connection) between the selected media gateway (102) and the-target access node (110) (see col. 7, lines 39-56; col. 10, lines 9-37; Figs. 1, 11-12, 17-19), where connections are established between the dispatching switch (102) and access nodes (110), and;

upon termination of communications between the switch (104) and the target access node (110), the switch (104) informing that the call is released and the circuit pathway between the

switch (104), the media gateway (102) and the target access node (110) is released and the database (e.g., table) is updated (see col. 7, lines 39-56; col. 10, lines 9-37; col. 14, lines 39-57; col. 15, lines 7-18; Figs. 1, 7-8, 11-12, 18-19), where connections are established between the switch (104), dispatching switch (102), and access nodes (110) in which a table is maintained and updated. Ho fails to disclose having the features operably connected to a media gateway selection node; coupled with the media gateway selection node (MGWSN); selecting a media gateway; by the media gateway selection node; the MGWSN. However, the examiner maintains that having the features operably connected to a media gateway selection node; coupled with the media gateway selection node (MGWSN); selecting a media gateway; by the media gateway selection node; the MGWSN was well known in the art, as taught by Anquetil.

Anquetil further discloses of having the features

operably connected to a media gateway selection node (MGC) (see pg. 154, left column, section Gateway Decomposition; pg. 154, section MGCP Connection Control; Fig. 2), where the MGC is able to provide connections between endpoints such the connections to the media gateways;

coupled with the media gateway selection node (MGWSN) (MGC) (see pg. 154, left column, section Gateway Decomposition; pg. 154, section MGCP Connection Control; Fig. 2), where the MGC is able to provide connections between endpoints;

selecting a media gateway (MG) (see pg. 154, left column; Fig. 2), where the media gateway controller selects a media gateway for end to end connection;

by the media gateway selection node (see Fig. 2), where the MGC controls the connections of the media gateways (MG);

the MGWSN (MGC) (see Fig. 2), where the MGC provides connections between endpoints by connecting system elements such media gateways and PBXs.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Ho and Anquetil to have operably connected to a media gateway selection node (MGC); coupled with the media gateway selection node (MGWSN); selecting a media gateway; by the media gateway selection node; the MGWSN, in order to have a network that is scalable by controlling media gateway selection with a media gateway controller, as taught by Anquetil.

Regarding **Claim 9**, the combination of Ho and Anquetil discloses every limitation claimed, as applied above (see claim 8), in addition Ho further teaches the method of claim 8 wherein the steps of selecting, allocating, releasing, and updating the database are performed dynamically (see col. 7, lines 39-56; col. 10, lines 9-37; col. 13, line 52 - col. 14, line 17; col. 14, lines 39-57; col. 15, lines 7-18; Figs. 1, 7-8, 11-12, 6 "ref. 616", 17-19), where connections are established between the switch (104), dispatching switch (102), and BSC (110).

Regarding **Claim 10**, Ho discloses the step of maintaining for selecting, allocating, and releasing circuit pathways (e.g., connections) (see col. 13, line 52 - col. 14, line 17; col. 14, lines 39-57; col. 15, lines 7-18; col. 5, line 18-25; Figs. 1, 2, 7-8, 17), where the connections are established between the switches (104), dispatching switches (102), BSC's (110) in which the connections are selected, allocated, and released that are maintained in an

addressing table of the linked components of the network. Ho fails to disclose having the feature the media gateway selection node. However, the examiner maintains that having the feature the media gateway selection node was well known in the art, as taught by Anquetil.

Anquetil further discloses of having the feature the media gateway selection node (MGC) (see pg. 154, left column, section Gateway Decomposition; pg. 154, section MGCP Connection Control; Fig. 2), where the MGC is able to provide connections between endpoints such the connections to the media gateways and PBXs.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Ho and Anquetil to have the feature the media gateway selection node, in order to have a network that is scalable by controlling media gateway selection with a media gateway controller, as taught by Anquetil.

Regarding **Claim 11**, Ho the step of maintaining a switch pool comprising the switches (104) of the telecommunications network (100), the switch pool operably connected to the media gateway selection node (404) (see Figs. 1 and 4), where the switch pool has connectivity to the node. Ho fails to disclose having the feature operably connected to a media gateway selection node. However, the examiner maintains that having the feature operably connected to a media gateway selection node was well known in the art, as taught by Anquetil.

Anquetil further discloses of having the feature operably connected to a media gateway selection node (MGC) (see pg. 154, left column, section Gateway Decomposition; pg. 154, section MGCP Connection Control; Fig. 2), where the MGC is able to provide connections between endpoints such the connections to the media gateways and PBXs.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Ho and Anquetil to have the feature operably connected to a media gateway selection node, in order to have a network that is scalable by controlling media gateway selection with a media gateway controller, as taught by Anquetil.

Regarding **Claim 13**, Ho discloses a node for use in a telecommunications network (100) for providing non-dedicated circuit pathways between access nodes (110, 112) and switches (104, 106, 108) of a switch pool in the network (100), comprising: (see col. 5, line 18-25; col. 10, lines 27-37; Figs. 1, 3, 17-19, 20C), where the system controls the dispatching switch (102) for connecting the access nodes (110) to the switch pool (104). The scalability of system can be increased by adding additional MSC's, dispatch switches (message routers) for such reasons as load-balancing and capacity management (see col. 20, lines 28-37,56-61; Figs. 1, 17), where multiple message routers (1718) and/or dispatching switches (102) are implemented in the system and controlled by system element such as element (1712).

database means for storing and accessing data concerning media gateways, access nodes, switches, and circuit pathways (e.g., connections) of the network (100) (see col. 6, lines 19-22; col. 7, lines 39-56; col. 9, line 57 - col. 10, line 4; col. 10, lines 14-22; col. 10, lines 30-37; Figs. 2, 4, 5A-B, 6, 7, 8), where the data of the addressing table defines the connections and routes used between the network;

means for defining relationships among the media gateways, access nodes, switches, and circuit pathways (see col. 6, lines 19-22; col. 7, lines 39-56; col. 9, line 57 - col. 10, line 4;

col. 10, lines 14-22; col. 10, lines 30-37; Figs. 2, 4, 5A-B, 6, 7, 8, 17), where the data of the addressing table defines the connections and routes used between the network; and

means for reserving and releasing circuit pathways (e.g., connections) as needed for use between individual switches (104) and individual access nodes (110), wherein the means for reserving and releasing the circuit pathways is configured for: (see col. 6, lines 19-22; col. 7, lines 39-56; col. 9, line 57 - col. 10, line 4; col. 10, lines 14-22; col. 10, lines 30-37; Figs. 2, 4, 5A-B, 6-8, 11-12, 17, 20A-C), where the data of the addressing table defines the connections and routes used within the network and for establishing and releasing connections between network elements;

allocating a circuit pathway (e.g., connection) between the switch (104) and the target access node (110), wherein said allocating step comprises: (see col. 7, lines 39-56; col. 10, lines 9-37; Figs. 1, 11-12, 18-19), where connections are established between the dispatching switch (102) and access nodes (110);

allocating an available non-dedicated circuit pathway (e.g., connection) between the switch (104) and the selected media gateway (102) (see col. 7, lines 39-56; col. 10, lines 9-37; Figs. 1, 17), where the provides connections between the MSC (104) and dispatching switch (102) ;

allocating an available non-dedicated circuit pathway (e.g., connection) between the selected media gateway (102) and the-target access node (110) (see col. 7, lines 39-56; col. 10, lines 9-37; Figs. 1, 11-12, 17-19), where connections are established between the dispatching switch (102) and access nodes (110), and;

upon termination of use of the allocated circuit pathway, releasing each allocated circuit pathway between the switch (104) and the target access node (110) and updating the database means (e.g., table) (see col. 7, lines 39-56; col. 10, lines 9-37; col. 14, lines 39-57; col. 15, lines 7-18; col. 13, line 52 - col. 14, line 17; Figs. 1, 7-8, 11-12, 17-19), where connections are established and allocated between the switch (104), dispatching switch (102), and access nodes (110) in which a table is maintained and updated. Ho fails to disclose having the features the media gateway selection node; selecting a media gateway. However, the examiner maintains that having the features the media gateway selection node; selecting a media gateway was well known in the art, as taught by Anquetil.

Anquetil discloses the features the media gateway selection node (MGC) (see pg. 154, left column, section Gateway Decomposition; pg. 154, section MGCP Connection Control; Fig. 2), where the MGC is able to provide connections between endpoints such the connections to the media gateways and PBXs;

selecting a media gateway (MG) (see pg. 154, left column; Fig. 2), where the media gateway controller selects a media gateway for end to end connection;

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Ho and Anquetil to have the features the media gateway selection node; selecting a media gateway, in order to have a network that is scalable by controlling media gateway selection with a media gateway controller, as taught by Anquetil.

Regarding **Claim 14**, Ho discloses wherein the data concerning media gateways (102), access nodes (110), switches (104), and circuit pathways, further comprises load

carrying capacity (see col. 13, lines 29; col. 16, line 53 - col. 17, line 47; Figs. 4, 6, 11, 12). The scalability of system can be increased by adding additional MSC's, dispatch switches (message routers) for such reasons as load-balancing and capacity management (see col. 20, lines 28-37,56-61; Figs. 1, 17), where multiple message routers (1718) and/or dispatching switches (102) are implemented in the system and controlled by system element such as element (1712). Ho fails to disclose having the feature the media gateway selection node. However, the examiner maintains that having the feature the media gateway selection node was well known in the art, as taught by Anquetil.

Anquetil discloses the feature the media gateway selection node (MGC) (see pg. 154, left column, section Gateway Decomposition; pg. 154, section MGCP Connection Control; Fig. 2), where the MGC is able to provide connections between endpoints such the connections to the media gateways and PBXs.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Ho and Anquetil to have the feature the media gateway selection node, in order to have a network that is scalable by controlling media gateway selection with a media gateway controller, as taught by Anquetil.

Regarding **Claim 15**, Ho discloses wherein the means for defining relationships among the media gateways (102), access nodes (110), switches (104), and circuit pathways is adapted to perform dynamically (see col. 6, lines 19-22; col. 7, lines 39-56; col. 9, line 57 - col. 10, line 4; col. 10, lines 14-22; col. 10, lines 30-37; col. 13, lines 29; col. 16, line 53 - col. 17, line 47; Figs. 2, 4, 5A-B, 6, 11, 12), where the data of the addressing table defines the connections and routes used between the network. The scalability of system can be increased

by adding additional MSC's, dispatch switches (message routers) for such reasons as load-balancing and capacity management (see col. 20, lines 28-37,56-61; Figs. 1, 17), where multiple message routers (1718) and/or dispatching switches (102) are implemented in the system and controlled by system element such as element (1712). Ho fails to disclose having the feature the media gateway selection node. However, the examiner maintains that having the feature the media gateway selection node was well known in the art, as taught by Anquetil.

Anquetil discloses the feature the media gateway selection node (MGC) (see pg. 154, left column, section Gateway Decomposition; pg. 154, section MGCP Connection Control; Fig. 2), where the MGC is able to provide connections between endpoints such the connections to the media gateways and PBXs.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Ho and Anquetil to have the feature the media gateway selection node, in order to have a network that is scalable by controlling media gateway selection with a media gateway controller, as taught by Anquetil.

Regarding **Claim 16**, Ho discloses wherein the means for reserving and releasing circuit pathways as needed for use between individual switches (104) and individual access nodes (110) is adapted to perform dynamically (see col. 6, lines 19-22; col. 7, lines 39-56; col. 9, line 57 - col. 10, line 4; col. 10, lines 14-22; col. 10, lines 30-37; col. 13, lines 29; col. 16, line 53 - col. 17, line 47; Figs. 2, 4, 5A-B, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12), where the data of the addressing table defines the connections and routes used within the network in which the connections are established and released. The scalability of system can be increased by

adding additional MSC's, dispatch switches (message routers) for such reasons as load-balancing and capacity management (see col. 20, lines 28-37,56-61; Figs. 1, 17), where multiple message routers (1718) and/or dispatching switches (102) are implemented in the system and controlled by system element such as element (1712). Ho fails to disclose having the feature the media gateway selection node. However, the examiner maintains that having the feature the media gateway selection node was well known in the art, as taught by Anquetil.

Anquetil discloses the feature the media gateway selection node (MGC) (see pg. 154, left column, section Gateway Decomposition; pg. 154, section MGCP Connection Control; Fig. 2), where the MGC is able to provide connections between endpoints such the connections to the media gateways and PBXs.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Ho and Anquetil to have the feature the media gateway selection node, in order to have a network that is scalable by controlling media gateway selection with a media gateway controller, as taught by Anquetil.

Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Ho et al.** (hereinafter Ho) (**US 6,091,953**) in view of **Anquetil et al**. (hereinafter Anquetil) (*Media Gateway Control Protocol and Voice Over IP Gateways*) as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Stumpert (WO 01/13657).

Regarding **Claim 7**, the combination of Ho and Anquetil as applied above to Claim 1 discloses of having identity associated with the paths and components of the path in the

addressing table (see Ho - col. 7, lines 39-56; col. 9, lines 57-64; Figs. 2 and 7), where the signal path and connections are associated with identities in the addressing table. The combination of Ho and Anquetil fails to disclose the codes with Circuit Identity Codes (CICS). However, the examiner maintains that the codes with Circuit Identity Codes (CICS) were well known in the art, as taught by Stumpert.

Stumpert further discloses having codes with circuit identity codes (CICs) (see pg. 11, 4th paragraph).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Ho, Anquetil, and Stumpert, to have wherein the identity codes comprise Circuit Identity Codes (CICS), in order to have different identifying CICs used for routing between different components of the network during call setup and control, as taught by Stumpert.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-4, 6-11, 13-16 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Willie J. Daniel, Jr. whose telephone number is (703) 305-8636. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Marsha D. Banks-Harold can be reached on (703) 305-4379. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Marsha D Banks-Harold

WJD,JR
05 January 2005

MARSHA D. BANKS-HAROLD
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600